WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement with Singapore

229. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be plesed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement was recently signed with the Singapore Government;

(b) what will be the impact of this Agreement on trading of items in the Negative List like liquor, beer etc.; and

(c) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) has been signed between India and Singapore by Prime Ministers of the two countries on 29th June, 2005 in New Delhi.

(b) and (c) India's offer to Singapore in Trade in Goods udner CECA has 6,551 products at the 8-digit Harmonised System (HS Code) in the negative list where no concessions in import duty have been given. Keeping in view the sensitivities of the domestic industry, liquor, beer and other alcoholic beverages have been kept in the negative list. The products in the negative list would continue to be imported on the normal applied rates of import duty and as such, CECA is not likely to have any impact on the import of these items. All Indian products have been given market access at zero duty by Singapore under this agreement.

Import of cheap products

† 230. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cheap products which have heavy subsidy from various developed countries are being imported and dumped in the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.